

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A substrate ~~(100, 200)~~ for receiving and cryopreserving a plurality of samples, said substrate comprising that comprises:

[[-]] a plurality of substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ arranged on top of one another as a stack ~~(10)~~, and

[[-]] an anchoring axis ~~(20)~~, to which the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ are connected, wherein each substrate plate has a compartmental arrangement with a plurality of sample reservoirs and a bearing bore through which the anchoring axis passes, and at least one substrate plate can pivot out of the stack about the anchoring axis.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim ~~2~~1, ~~in which~~wherein the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ have a rectangular shape and the bearing bore ~~(15)~~ is in each case provided in a corner of the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim ~~2 or 3~~1, ~~in which~~wherein the bearing bore ~~(15)~~ of at least one of the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ has an insertion opening ~~(16)~~ on the ~~an~~ edge for the lateral insertion of the anchoring axis ~~(20)~~ into the bearing bore ~~(15)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 4, ~~in which~~wherein the insertion opening (16) forms a collar opening (18) with a lesser width, relative to ~~the~~a diameter of the bearing bore (15), and the anchoring axis (20) has a thickness at least in partial sections of its length that is smaller than or equal to the width of the collar opening (18).

6. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the anchoring axis (20) has a projection (22) on its upper end.

7. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the anchoring axis (20) is rotatably arranged.

8. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the stack (10) contains at least one of a data storage device (50), a base plate (60) and/or a cover plate.

9. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 8, ~~in which~~wherein the base plate (60) contains a data memory (65).

10. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 8 ~~or 9~~, ~~in which~~wherein the anchoring axis (20) is detachably connected to a lowest substrate plate (11) or to the base plate (60).

11. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein at least one substrate plate (12) in the stack (10) can be shifted vertically to pivot about the anchoring axis (20).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the substrate plates comprise~~(11, 12, 13)~~ have engagement
means ~~(30)~~ that block a lateral shifting of the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ at least in a direction
vertically to a stack direction.

14. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 13, ~~in which~~wherein the
engagement means ~~(30)~~ comprise at least one profile ~~(31)~~ on a lateral surface of a substrate plate
~~(11, 12, 13)~~ that cooperates with a complementary profile ~~(32)~~ on a lateral surface of an adjacent
substrate plate~~(11, 12, 13)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 13 ~~or 14~~, ~~in~~
~~which~~wherein the anchoring axis ~~(20)~~ can be transferred by a rotation from a lowered fix
position, in which all substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ in the stack ~~(10)~~ are mutually fixed, into a
rotary position, in which the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ can be moved in accordance with a play
in ~~the~~a direction of the stack and pivot about the anchoring axis, and/or be transferred into a
release position in which at least one substrate plate ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ can be separated from the stack
~~(10)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 13, ~~in which~~wherein the
engagement means ~~(30)~~ are formed by a positive-fit slide guide.

17. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the anchoring axis ~~(20)~~ comprises a one-piece rod ~~(21)~~
extending over ~~the~~a height of the stack~~(10)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claims ~~17 and~~ 5, ~~in which~~wherein the anchoring axis comprises a one-piece rod extending over a height of the stack, and the rod (21) has key surfaces (23) that form the partial sections with the thickness that is smaller than or equal to the width of the collar opening (18).

19. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~ Claims 1 ~~to 16, in which~~wherein the anchoring axis (20) comprises a plurality of axis segments (26).

20. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to Claim 19, ~~in which~~wherein the axis segments (26) each comprise a cylindrical body with a height corresponding substantially to ~~the~~a thickness of the substrate plates (11, 12, 13) and with a diameter corresponding to ~~the~~a diameter of the bearing bores (15), complementary recesses (27) and protrusions (28) being provided on the top and bottom sides of the axis segments (26) that engage into each other in the assembled stack (10) of substrate plates (11, 12, 13).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~Claim 1, in whichwherein at least one substrate plate (11) contains a data memory.

23. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~Claim 1, in whichwherein the substrate plates ~~consist of~~comprise plastic.

24. (Currently Amended) The substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~Claim 1, in whichwherein the substrate plates (11, 12, 13) have side lengths less than 10 cm.

25. (Currently Amended) A process for the cryopreservation of samples with a substrate according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, with the steps:

[[-]] storage of the samples on the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~, and

[[-]] freezing of the substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ ~~in the compound of the stack (10)~~.

26. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 25, ~~in which~~ wherein the stack ~~(10)~~ of substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ is formed before the storage of the samples.

27. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 25, ~~in which~~ wherein the stack ~~(10)~~ of substrate plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~ is formed after the storage of the samples.

28. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~one of Claims 25 to 27~~, in ~~which~~ wherein individual substrate plates are pivoted ~~and/or~~ pushed out of the stack ~~(10)~~ in a frozen or thawed state.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of a substrate according to at least one of Claims 1 to 24 for storing~~ process of Claim 25, wherein the samples are liquids or particulates ~~samples~~.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of a substrate according to at least one of Claims 1 to 24 for the preservation of~~ process of Claim 25, wherein the samples are biological samples at ~~eryotemperatures~~.